

REMARKS

Allowed Claims

[0002] The Office Action indicates that claims 1-4, 150, 151, and 157 are allowable (Action, p. 4). Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1-4, 150, 151 and 157. These claims have not been substantively amended herein, and therefore remain in condition for allowance.

[0003] Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims of the application. The status of the claims is as follows:

- Claims 1-155 and 157 are currently pending;
- Claim 156 is canceled herein;
- Claim 145 remains withdrawn herein;
- Claims 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 23, 27, 31, 35, 37, 41, 45, 49, 51, 55, 59, 63, 65, 69, 73, 77, 79, 83, 87, 91, 93, 97, 101-128, 129, 141-144 and 151 are amended herein; and
- No new claims are added herein.

[0004] Support for the amendments to claims 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 23, 27, 31, 35, 37, 41, 45, 49, 51, 55, 59, 63, 65, 69, 73, 77, 79, 83, 87, 91, 93, 97, 101-128, 129, 141-144 and 151 is found in the specification at least at pages 8, 19 and 21, as well as Figures 1-4.

[0005] Claims 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 23, 27, 31, 35, 37, 41, 45, 49, 51, 55, 59, 63, 65, 69, 73, 77, 79, 83, 87, 91, 93 and 97 have been amended to depend from allowed base claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are allowable for at least the

same reasons that its base claim is allowable. Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of each dependent claim where its base claim is allowable.

[0006] Independent claims 129 and 141 have been amended to recite features substantively similar to allowed claim 1. Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 129 and 141 are allowable at least for the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

[0007] Independent claims 101, 141, 142, 143 and 144 have been amended to recite features substantively similar to allowed claim 157. Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 101 and 142–144 are allowable at least for the same reasons that claim 157 is allowable.

[0008] Claims 102–128 have been amended to depend from base claim 101. Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons that its base claim is allowable. Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of each dependent claim where its base claim is allowable.

[0009] Allowed claim 151 has been amended to correct a minor formality.

Claims 101 and 152-156 Recite Statutory Subject Matter Under § 101

[0010] Claims 101 and 152-156 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

[0011] Nevertheless, for the sole purpose of expediting prosecution and without commenting on the propriety of the Office's rejections, Applicant herein amends claim 101 as shown above. Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments render the § 101 rejection moot.

Dependent Claims

[0012] If not already addressed individually above, in addition to its own merits, each dependent claim is allowable for at least the same reasons that its base claim is allowable. Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of each dependent claim where its base claim is allowable.

Conclusion

[0013] Applicant submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the application. If any issues remain that prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned representative for the Applicant before issuing a subsequent Action.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee & Hayes, PLLC
Representative for Applicant

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